

ABSTRACT

2 Distance image outputted from an image processor is
3 read by a recognition/judgment computer, in which the distance
4 image is divided into strips having a specified interval and a
5 histogram is prepared for each strip. Based on the histogram,
6 the position of solid objects and the distance thereto are
7 obtained and these positional data of the solid objects are
8 classified into groups of solid object and groups of side wall.
9 Further, the position of a wall surface forming a boundary of
10 a road is detected from the data of the groups of side wall. On
11 the other hand, assuming a wall surface model composed of a series
12 of nodes, respective nodes are determined and corrected by the
13 data of side wall. Thus obtained nodes form a successive wall
14 surface along a curved road.

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